

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A wound dressing, ingredient delivery device or IV hold-down comprising:

a handle;

a polymeric film having a first and second side, at least a portion of said first side of said polymeric film being coated with an adhesive layer;

said handle being adhered to said second side of said polymeric film to define a non-use configuration, and wherein the handle can be separated from the polymeric film to thereby define a transient configuration as the handle is being separated from the polymeric film, and wherein, the continuity of contact between said handle and the underlying second surface of said polymeric film being interrupted at least in the vicinity of at least a portion of the edge of said handle when the device is in the non-use configuration.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The device of claim 1 in which said continuity is interrupted when the device is in the non-use configuration, [[to]] such an extent that the contact area between said handle and said polymeric film is reduced by from about 10%-30% to about 70%-90% of the contact area that would occur but for the interruption of continuity of contact.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The device of claim 1 in which said continuity is interrupted when the device is in the non-use configuration, [[to]] such an extent that the contact area

between said handle and said polymeric film is ~~reduced by from~~ about 10%50% to about 50%90% of the contact area that would occur but for the interruption of continuity of contact.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The device of claim 1 in which said continuity is interrupted when the device is in the non-use configuration, [[to]] such an extent that the contact area between said handle and said polymeric film is ~~reduced by from~~ about 10%70% to about 30%90% of the contact area that would occur but for the interruption of continuity of contact.

Claim 5 (original): The device of claim 2 in which said continuity is interrupted by said handle being textured.

Claim 6 (original): The device of claim 5 in which said texturing is accomplished by piercing said handle.

Claim 7 (original): The device of claim 6 in which said piercing is conducted by piercing slots through said handle.

Claim 8 (original): The device of claim 7 in which said slots are oriented diagonally relative to the edge of said handle.

Claim 9 (original): The device of claim 7 in which said slots are oriented generally parallel to the edge of said handle.

Claim 10 (original): The device of claim 6 in which said piercing is conducted by piercing pinholes through said handle.

Claim 11 (original): The device of claim 5 in which said texturing comprises said handle being knurled.

Claim 12 (original): The device of claim 5 in which said texturing comprises said handle being embossed or debossed.

Claim 13 (original): The device of claim 5 in which texturing comprises said first adhesive coating being printed in a pattern on said first side of said handle.

Claim 14 (original): The device of claim 5 in which said texturing comprises said handle being made of a material having a relatively rough first surface facing said polymeric film.

Claim 15 (original): The device of claim 2 in which said interruption of the continuity of contact between said handle and said polymeric film is accomplished by said second side of said polymeric film being textured.

Claim 16 (original): The device of claim 2 in which said interruption of the continuity of contact between said handle and said polymeric film is accomplished by said handle being

pierced with slots, said slots being generally diagonally relative to the perimeter of said handle.

Claim 17 (original): The device of claim 2 in which said interruption of the continuity of contact between said handle and said polymeric film is accomplished by said handle being pierced with slots, said slots being generally parallel relative to the perimeter of said handle.

Claim 18 (original): The device of claim 1 in which said handle is adhered to said polymeric film by an adhesive layer adhered to the underside of said handle.

Claim 19 (currently amended): The device of claim 18 in which said continuity is interrupted when the device is in the non-use configuration, [[to]] such an extent that the contact area between said handle and said polymeric film is reduced by from about 10%70% to about 30%90% of the contact area that would exist but for the interruption of the continuity.

Claim 20 (original): The device of claim 1 in which said handle is adhered to said polymeric film by electrostatic attraction.

Claim 21 (original): The device of claim 20 in which said handle comprises a conductive layer affixed to a non-conductive layer.

Claim 22 (currently amended): The device of claim 21 in which said continuity is interrupted when the device is in the non-use configuration, [[to]] such an extent that the contact area

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Appln. No. : 10/563,340
Page : 6

between said handle and said polymeric film is ~~reduced by from about 10%70%~~ to about 30%90% of the contact area that would occur but for the interruption of continuity of contact.

Claims 23-65 (canceled).

Claim 66 (currently amended): A method of minimizing edge release in wound dressings, ingredient delivery devices and IV hold-downs which incorporate a handle member to assist in their application, wherein the removal of said handle member after application tends to lift the edge of the adhesive coated polymeric film of the dressing or device away from the skin or mucosa of the patient, said method comprising:

providing a handle;

providing a polymeric film including a first and second side;

coating at least a portion of the first side of said polymeric film with an adhesive layer;

said handle being adhered to said second side of said polymeric film; and

interrupting the continuity of contact between said handle and said polymeric film prior to removal of said handle, thereby minimizing edge release of said film from the patient's skin or mucosa when said handle is removed.

Claim 67 (currently amended): A method of minimizing edge release in wound dressings, ingredient delivery devices and IV hold-downs which incorporate a handle member to assist in their application, wherein the removal of said handle member after application tends to lift the edge of the adhesive coated polymeric film of the dressing or device away from the skin or

mucosa of the patient, said method comprising:

providing a handle having a first side;

coating at least a portion of the first side of said handle with a first adhesive layer;

providing a polymeric film including a first and second side;

coating at least a portion of the first side of said polymeric film with a second adhesive

layer;

said handle being adhered to said second side of said polymeric film by said first

adhesive layer; and

reducing the area of contact between said first adhesive coating and said polymeric film

by ~~from~~ to about 10-30% to about 70-90% prior to bringing the second adhesive layer into
contact with a patient.

Claims 68 - 70 (cancelled):

Claim 71 (new): A wound dressing, ingredient delivery device or IV hold-down comprising:

a handle defining an outer peripheral edge and an inner peripheral edge forming a window through the handle, the handle including a cut extending between and interconnecting the inner and outer peripheral edges;

a polymeric film having a first and second side, at least a portion of said first side of said polymeric film being coated with an adhesive layer;

said handle being adhered to said second side of said polymeric film, the continuity of contact between said handle and the underlying second surface of said polymeric film being

interrupted at least in the vicinity of at least a portion of the edge of said handle by a deformation in the handle other than the cut.

Claim 72 (new): A wound dressing, ingredient delivery device or IV hold-down comprising:

a handle defining an outer peripheral edge;

a polymeric film having a first and second side, at least a portion of said first side of said polymeric film being coated with an adhesive layer;

said handle being adhered to said second side of said polymeric film, the continuity of contact between said handle and the underlying second surface of said polymeric film being interrupted at least in the vicinity of at least a portion of the edge of said handle by a plurality of discrete openings in the handle defining edges that do not connect to the peripheral edge of the handle.

Claim 73 (new): A wound dressing, ingredient delivery device or IV hold-down comprising:

a handle defining a perimeter and a window through the handle, and wherein the handle includes a tab projecting into the window;

a polymeric film adhered to the handle adjacent the perimeter; and wherein:

the tab is adhered to the polymeric film substantially less aggressively than the perimeter is adhered to the polymeric film.

Claim 74 (new): The device of claim 73, including a layer of adhesive disposed between the handle and the polymeric film except at the tab.